

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Kazuo KURODA, et al.Atty. Ref.: **4105-39**Serial No. **unknown**Group: **unknown**National Phase of: **PCT/JP03/06209**International Filing Date: **May 19, 2003**Filed: **November 30, 2004**Examiner: **Unknown**For: **SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY ELEMENT AND LIFETIME
OPERATION STARTING APPARATUS THEREFOR**

* * * * *

November 30, 2004Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

• Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified

• application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows: